

31-ET

THE 31ST ANNUAL UK FILK CONVENTION
BEST WESTERN MARKS TEY
1-3 FEBRUARY 2019



PROGRESS REPORT 1

Hello, and welcome to this somewhat belated 1st progress report for 31-ET the 31st UK filk convention! Obviously we planned to present you with this highly valuable document some months ago, but life being what it is, we are here at September with nary a blink since the wonderful 30th anniversary convention back in February.

You are receiving this either because you have already registered for the convention, or because you were a member of the last convention, and we thought you might like to come and give this one a go too!

THE COMMITTEE

Paul Bristow

Chief Culprit, Programme Coordinator, and Stopper-Of-(Non-Monetary)-Bucks

Paul has yet to provide an official bio for us, but this editor can comment that in my experience he is a medium size bearded man often to be found skulking in the bar or towards the back during performances, and occasionally springing up (springing may be a strong word) to delight us with an unexpected comic turn. He also appears to come equipped with the gift of tardiness!

Miki Dennis

Artist-in-Residence and Hotel Liaison

Miki Dennis has been involved with folk and then filk for around 25 years. She managed to avoid organising the first filk con by being inconspicuous but since that was one of the only times in her life she achieved this she has since been on 3 committees and the last Glasgow Worldcon. This is slightly unusual as she can't sing a note and disguises this by writing and performing poetry [or 'pietry'.] She is also a high ranking noble of the Far Isles Medieval society and has run many of their events as well as being an award-winning sci-fi costumer.

Jackie Mitchell

Publications, Guest Liaison and Hotel Liaison

Jackie describes her introduction to filk thus:

We were at the pub for a post-rehearsal drink following a Chapel End Savoy Players rehearsal (Gilbert and Sullivan), and if I recall correctly, Hitch, Debbie, Mich and Marilisa were there, and chatting about a choir they were involved in, that seemed to also have something to do with the kind of SF/Fantasy books/films etc. I like. Now I am a naturally nosy individual (and possibly just the slightest bit of a diva!), so after a few weeks of this, I could contain myself no longer, and so piped up with something along the lines of "What is this choir of which you speak, and why aren't I involved in it?" Before I knew it, Hitch had spoken to Valerie, and persuaded me to come along to the next rehearsal. Feeling somewhat pushy now, I duly went along, and attended probably 3 or 4 rehearsals before I realised we actually had a concrete gig we were rehearsing for, that I couldn't actually make (the 22nd UK con I believe)! I was able to mark my diary for the next year however, and since Marilisa also asked me to help out with her GoH set (Cre2c3ndo), I was committed, and there's been no escaping since!

Colin Tuckley

Membership Secretary and Stopper-of-(Monetary)-Bucks, Quids and Other Spondulix (Treasurer)

Colin has been involved in UK filk for 'cough cough' years and can usually be found listening in at concerts and circles. Not a performer, he is nevertheless a stalwart at the UK filk convention.

GUESTS OF HONOUR

UK Guest of Honour: Chantelle Smith

Chantelle is a Wiltshire based-folk singer who performs regularly with Talis Kimberley's band, and also with story teller Kevan Manwaring. She has been around on the UK folk scene for some years now, singing and playing her way into our hearts, and we are delighted that she has agreed to be our guest this year. Never one to rest on her laurels, she always seems to be introducing new songs and instruments into the mix, and we can't wait to see what she has for us at 31-ET!

She has a website: <https://www.chantellesmith.co.uk> if you want to find out anything more!

International Guest of Honour: Cheshire Moon

Cheshire Moon is the fanciful collaboration of trickster bird Lizzie Crowe (vocals, bowed instruments and little instruments) and crazed magician Eric Coleman (big instruments and occasional vocals). They describe their genre as MythPunk, bringing old gods and folk tales into modern day, and bringing faerie tale princesses into the light of dark magic. In general they play around the Midwest of the USA at a combination of conventions, coffee houses, pagan festivals and house concerts. They won two Pegasus Awards in 2014, Best Song for Snow White, Red Road, and Best Performer.

They also have a website: <http://www.cheshiremoonband.com/> if you want to find out more about some of their recent/upcoming projects.

MEMBERSHIPS

If you haven't yet registered (why not!) then please either fill in the form online on our website; www.contabile.org.uk/31et, at the end of this PR, register in person when you see us, or, for adult memberships, book online using TicketSource (for a small additional booking fee) – for more details and a link, please see the membership page of our website. If you are coming from overseas, or have any other questions etc, please feel free to contact us and we can discuss options. Our email is thirtyone-et@contabile.org.uk.

Advance/Pre-registration rates (1st April - 30th November):

Waged £38/Unwaged £28

Final registration rates (1st December – 31st January):

Waged £41/Unwaged £30

At Con rates:

Waged £45/Unwaged £33

Children aged 5-17 years: £1 per year of age at time of joining

Children under 5: Free (but please register them!)

Single day memberships (obtainable on the day only):

Friday: Waged £10/Unwaged £6

Saturday: Waged £20/Unwaged £16

Sunday: Waged £15/Unwaged £11

THE HOTEL

We are once again returning to the Marks Tey Best Western Hotel, near Colchester, which is just off the A12, and is also relatively easy to reach via public transport. The address is:

London Road
Marks Tey
Colchester
Essex
CO6 1DU
UK

The hotel has a large car park, and parking is free, while Marks Tey train station is a relatively short walk away. If this walk is too much for you, we may be able to coordinate lifts from the station, so please contact us to see if we can help.

Unfortunately, the hotel room prices have gone up a little this year, and are as follows:

Room only (PPN):

Single Room: £70

Double/Twin Room: £75

Adjoining Room (4 adults): £130

Adjoining room (2 adults, 2 children): £115

Room plus breakfast (PPN):

Single Room: £78

Double/Twin Room: £85

Adjoining Room (4 adults): £160

Adjoining room (2 adults, 2 children): £150

More details on how to book these rooms will follow shortly on PR2!

SET REQUESTS

As always, the people who make the filk conventions work are you – the performers and listeners extraordinaire, and we want to hear you! If you want to be heard, then please request a set from us! There is a form on this PR that you can use, or you can simply email us at the convention address (thirtyone-et@contabile.org.uk), and we will add you to the list – we have already had a few requests, but can currently accommodate more, so please get in touch! Current plans are for 30- and 60-minute slots, which will include tech set up and tear down, but we are happy to try to accommodate you if you would like a different length set. Depending on how many requests we get, we may have to reduce some longer set lengths down, but we will let you know in plenty of time (promise!) the final details of when and how long your set will be!

If you know you want a set but aren't sure of all the details of your set as yet, please feel free to request away, and give us the details when you have finalised them – preferably before the con itself though!

We are also planning to run some workshops again this year, so if anyone has any burning ideas for a workshop they would like to run, again please let us know!

Please get your set requests to us by the **end of October**, this will give us plenty of time to ensure everyone is happy with their place in our final programme!

(If you cannot email your request to us for any reason, please feel free to snail mail it to 31-ET, 60 Castlewood Drive, Eltham, London, SE9 1ND)

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SET REQUEST FORM



Name of act/performer:.....

Contact details

Name:.....

Email:.....

Phone:.....

Set length desired (short sets are 30min, long sets are 60min, including set up and break down time. Other lengths may be possible if required, please state):

.....
.....

Tech requirements (the more details you can give about number of performers, instruments etc, the better):

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.....

Description for programme book:

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If you have any further requirements/info, such as days/times when you would not be available, please state it here:

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UK GUEST OF HONOUR: CHANTELE SMITH

INTERNATIONAL GUEST OF HONOUR: CHESHIRE MOON

Advance membership rates (to 30th November 2018):

Full: £38

Unwaged: £28

Children: free under 5; £1 per year of age 5-17

Please send membership forms to thirtyone-et@contabile.org.uk, or via snail mail, including cheques
(made payable to **UK Filk Convention**) to:

31-ET
c/o 98 Woodland Road
Sawston
Cambridge
CB22 3DU
UK

Name(s) and badge name(s):

Address:

.....

Email:.....

Phone (optional):.....

Membership Type (please enter number and type required:

.....

31-ET would like to provide PRs etc in electronic format where possible. Please indicate whether you would prefer to receive PRs by post, by email or via a link in an email. Also, we will publish a list of badge names of attendees on the website and store your basic contact details in a database for the use of future UK filk conventions. If you are not happy for your data to be used in this way, please indicate here, and we will ensure your information is not included:

MEMBERSHIP LIST (as of 5th September 2018)

Chantelle Smith (G)	Katy
Lizzie Crowe (G)	Les Moore
Eric Coleman (G)	Lissa
Paul B. =:o} (C)	Liz
Miki (C)	Lydia Stevenson
Jackie Mitchell (C)	Mad Logician
Colin Tuckley (C)	Melusine
Alex	Michael Bernardi
Alice W	Mike Richards
Alison Richards	Mike Westhead
Amy	Minnow
Andrew January	Naomi Stevenson
Aunty Marion	Nat
Barbara Stuart	Omega
Billy	Paul W
Blind Lemming Chiffon	Peter Tyers
Bob Moore	Peter Wareham
Colin Fine	Peter Westhead
Dale Williamson	Phil
Dave Stevenson	Pippa
Debbie L	Rafe Culpin
Deborah	Rayner
Emily January	Rick
Fan Tom	Robert Maughan
Fhtagn	Roger Robinson
Ginny Ickle	Shadow
Gwen Funnell	Senji
Jane	Silke
Janet Maughan	Simon
Jela	Songbird
Jessica Stevenson	Steve Macdonald
John Stewart	Sue Edwards
Karen Westhead	Talis
Kate	The Magician
Kathy Westhead	Valerie Housden
KT	